GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3473
ANSWERED ON:14.08.2000
GANGA ACTION PLAN
SHANKAR PRASAD JAISWAL

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the time by which the second phase of Ganga Action Plan in Varanasi is likely to be commenced;

(b) whether necessary fund has also been sanctioned by the Government for the second phase;

(c) if so, the amount allocated therefor; and

(d) the details in regard to non-utilization of allocated fund?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI)

(a) Differing views have been expressed by the Government of Uttar Pradesh and the Varanasi Nagar Nigam in the technological approach to the plan of implementation of sewage diversion and treatment works in the second phase of Ganga Action Plan at Varanasi. The state government and the Varanasi Nagar Nigam are to finalise the choice of technology and sites for sewage treatment plants. Hence the implementation of the plan has not yet started.

(b) to (d) A provision of Rs. 45.06 crores has been made for works under the second phase of Ganga Action Plan at Varanasi. The provision includes allocations for works relating to
(i) sewage interception and diversion - Rs. 27.76 crores,
(ii) river front development - Rs. 3.68 crores,
(iii) improved wood crematoria - Rs. 1.22 crores,
(iv) sewage treatment plants - Rs. 11.27 crores and
(v) minor miscellaneous works - Rs. 1.13 crores. Owing to delay in commencement of works and on account of sewage treatment being made more rigorous to ensure microbial pollution control, it is expected that the requirement of funds may go up. No works have been sanctioned so far by the Ministry of Environment and Forests since the finalisation of detailed project reports is yet to be completed by the State Government. This is the main reason for funds remaining unutilized in Varanasi.